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SHINING TIME STATION

"Thanksgiving"

BY

BRIAN McCONNACHIE

SECOND DRAFT Sept.10, 1992 SCENE 1 (MAINSET)

(FADE IN)

(DAY. HOLIDAY TRAVELERS RUSH IN. HOLIDAY TRAVELERS RUSH OUT)

(DAN AND BECKY ENTERS FROM THE LEFT AND... KARA ENTERS FROM THE RIGHT)

(JUST AS KARA OPENS HER MOUTH TO SPEAK TO DAN, A WHOLE HERD OF INCOMING PASSENGERS CUT BETWEEN THE CHILDREN. AD LIBS OF: EXCUSE ME, COMING THROUGH, GOTTA CATCH A TRAIN, IN A RUSH, ETC... TWIRLING BOTH KIDS AROUND)

DAN:

Gosh this place sure gets crazy at Thanksgiving.

(THE SOUND OF ANOTHER HERD, THEY ALL JUMP OUT OF THE WAY)

(AT THE END OF THE HERD IS MIDGE)

MIDGE:

Hello children... how are you today? Don't bother telling me, I have far too much on my mind as it is...

(SHE SPOTS SCHEMER. HE IS DRESSED AS A PILGRIM -- REMOTELY AS A PILGRIM. HIS COSTUME: SCHEMERIZED. MIDGE GOES OVER TO HIM)

MIDGE:

My gracious, what are you supposed to be?

SCHEMER:

A pilgrim. You like it, huh. Pretty great, isn't it. I represent Thanksgiving of the Future. I'm getting this idea up and running.

MIDGE:

What is the Thanksgiving of the Future?

SCHEMER;

On Thanksgiving, the new, improved Thanksgiving, people GIVE me stuff. Neat stuff; and NOT clothes. And all I have to do is say "Why... thanks. Thanks for giving." It's gonna be great... you'll see. What are you dressed up for?

MIDGE:

The Paddington-Hoovingtons are having a big, BIG Thanksgiving party and inviting just the most SPECIAL people in the Valley.

SCHEMER:

So what. I'm going to a bigger party at my mommy's house.

MIDGE:

They're serving candied yams...

SCHEMER:

We're having candied yams with chocolate sauce all over them!

MIDGE:

They're having pumpkin pie.

SCHEMER:

We're having... watermelon pie! And everyone knows watermelon pie is BETTER than pumpkin pie.

MIDGE;

They have three turkeys each weighing more than 30 POUNDS!

SCHEMER;

So what. Mommy is serving a turkey that weighs.. a hundred... and... FORTY POUNDS!

capitalize

MIDGE:

Good gracious, Schemer! That's bigger than... Stacy over there.

(INSERT: STACY WORKING AT THE BOOTH)

SCHEMER;

...yeah?

MIDGE:

Are you telling me that you're going to eat a turkey as big as Stacy...

SCHEMER:

... not all at once. -

(MIDGE DEPARTS SHAKING HER HEAD. WALKING TOWARDS STACY BUT FIRST SHE RUNS() TO GINNY)

MIDGE:

Ginny... were YOU invited to the Paddington-Hoovington's party?

GINNY:

Hay Hay Hay. Never heard of 'em. Got my nephew and his wife coming for dinner.

MIDGE:

How's that new dog of yours? What's his name? ... Glen, Prince of Goodness.,

GINNY:

Had to change his name. His new name is Mr. Filthy.

MIDGE:

Why do you call him Mr. Filthy?

Wouldn't she would getter how he heard of them much like a muse that like a muser where your a told a touch a though a doubt off your dotter Rey, the Worderday

GINNY:

'Cause he's always in the garbage. Day in and day out. Every time I turn around, he's in the garbage... he tosses it in the air and then he dances in it. Makes me sick, I tell you. It's a disgrace. I gotta go and take my turkey out. See you all later. Have a happy one.

makes a mess all over my gard and he leaves the cleaning up to me

(THE AD LIB GOOD-BYES. MIDGE COMES TO STACY)

MIDGE:

I don't guess anyone ELSE here was invited to Paddington-Hoovington's Thanksgiving party.

STACY;

I sure wasn't.

(BILLY ENTERS)

Billy, I'm going to post these new holiday schedules outside. I'll be right back.

(STACY EXITS. DAN AND BECKY COME OVER. ALL AD LIB HELLOS)

MIDGE;

And what are YOU doing for Thanksgiving, Billy?

BILLY:

I've been invited to have Thanksgiving with the Boomers and the Hobos.

MIDGE:

With Boomers and Hobos. My gracious.

BILLY:

It's a great honor to be invited. And it's fun. First there's a parade. Then we sing songs, then we sit down to our meal and afterwards, we all tell stories.

DAN:

Who are the Boomers and the Hobos, Billy?

BILLY:

Special people...

railroad I defre who they are here?

BECKY:

BILLY:

I'm afraid you have to be
invited... invited...

(BILLY CHECKS HIS WATCH)

... and I should be going pretty soon. I'm bringing the cranberry sauce.

BECKY:

Why are they special?

fulls of the party was to see their war funds at That surely What's so special about the

most at the

J.B. KING:

(VO)

Mr. Two Feathers

(J.B. KING ENTERS)

Ah, Mr. Two Feathers just the man I was looking for...

BILLY:

Excuse me, kids... What is it Mr. J.B.?

(THEY MEET HALFWAY)

KING:

Billy, we're going to need more trains running today. The crowds are bigger than we expected,.

BILLY:

Well, all the working engines are working.

KING:

Who aren't we using? Hey, what about Engine #23, "Old Reliable"?

BILLY:

I'll check...

(BILLY TAKES A LOG BOOK FROM BEHIND THE BOOTH AND CONSULTS IT)

She's got a busted boiler nozzle, her piston rings are cracked and three of her wheels are missing.

KING:

Mmmmmm... Well... what about Engine 64, "Old Dependable"?

BILLY:

... "Old Dependable" ... She split her crank shaft, shot all her gaskets and her smokestack blew off.

KING:

Mmmmmm... can you fix her?

BILLY:

... It'll take a while.

KING:

Well, get on it then!

BILLY:

J.B.? I was hoping to finish up early today so I could get to a special Thanksgiving.

KING:

We can't be thinking of ourselves. There are a lot of people counting on us to get them home in time for Thanksgiving dinner. And their Thanksgiving is just as special as yours, Mr.Two Feathers.

BILLY:

Right, J.B. . I'll get started.

Thanksgiving
Page 9 - 2ND DRAFT 9/10/92

SCENE 1 (CONT'D)

KING:

That's the spirit!

(KING GIVES BILLY AN ENCOURAGING PAT ON THE BACK AND EXITS. BILLY GOES INTO HIS OFFICE)

SCENE 2 (WORKSHOP)

(BILLY SPEAKS TO HIMSELF AS HE GATHERS HIS TOOLS)

BILLY:

I'll miss the parade but if I hurry, maybe I can get there in time for the songs, the dinner and the stories.

(BILLY GRABS HIS TOOL BAG AND HURRIES OUT)

SCENE 3 (MAINSET)

(AFTER BILLY EXITS, STACY ENTERS THE OPPOSITE SIDE. SHE'S LOOKING FOR BILLY... STACY SEES KARA)

STACY:

Billy? ... Kara, have you seen Billy?

KARA:

He just went running out.

STACY:

And right when I need him! ... Schemer!

(STACY MEETS SCHEMER HALF WAY)

SCHEMER:

What is it? You have a Thanksgiving gift for me? It better not be clothes.

STACY:

I don't have a gift for you.

SCHEMER:

Then you're not getting my extra special, super improved, "Why, thank you, Miss Stacy," Don't even dream about it...

STACY:

I want you to help me.

SCHEMER:

Help you! What kind of a Thanksgiving treat is that?

STACY:
Would you please
Grab the end of that
table.

Don't woke it sound like

(IT'S A LONG COLLAPSIBLE TABLE WHICH THEY CARRY TO DOWNSTAGE)

SCHEMER:

Why do I have to help? This is Billy's job.

STACY:

Let's set it up here.

(STACY FOLDS OUT THE LEGS AND SETS IT UPRIGHT. BECKY AND DAN COME OVER)

SCHEMER:

I have better things to do than help. Why right now I could be standing over there. And people could be coming in, people who have never met me before, and they could be handing me presents... Or over there resting on that rail. Or even just curled up in a ball on the floor over there... Or I could be...

(SCHEMER CONTINUES ON AS HE EXITS)

KARA:

What's the table for, Aunt Stacy?

STACY:

Well, on Thanksgiving a lot of people bring different dishes to other people's homes. We st up this table so they can rest their dishes here. They won't have to hold them. Some of the dishes are hot.

(AS SHE SPEAKS SEVERAL PEOPLE PUT DISHES ON THE TABLE, AND NOD A THANKS TO STACY)

See...

SCENE 4
(INT. DRESSING ROOM)
(THE GANG IS SITTING AT A LONG-LONG TABLE. START ON 2S OF BOYS.)

BOYS:

Now everybody say grace.

(QUICK PAN LEFT TO DIDI)

DIDI:

Grace.

(QICK PAN LEFT TO GRACE)

GRACE:

What?

(CUT TO: WIDE SHOT REVEALING THE WHOLE TABLE)

DIDI:

Isn't it swell that everybody seems to have a special place to go for Thanksgiving?

GRACE:

A-men! Hate to be alone on Thanksgiving.

TEX:

We just hate to be alone.

REX:

Period!

(TITO RUNS IN FRANTICALLY)

TITO:

All <u>right</u> already! THe turkey will be ready in just a little bit.

(XCU TITO)

RELAX!

(HE TURNS AND RUNS OUT CR. CUT BACK TO: WIDE SHOT OF TABLE)

GRACE:

What's with him?

REX:

Oh, you know "magic chef". When he's cookin'...

ha to

TEX:

...He's coocoo!

(CHUCKLE, GIGGLE)

(CUT TO:)
STORY BOARDS #5-8 ARE MISSING

(TITO PEERING OUT FROM BEHIND STOVE, DRESSING TABLE, OR OFF SCREEN)

TITO:

Something that's about two and a half minutes long---while I dress this turkey!!!

(CUT TO: PUPPET SONG: "WE GATHER TOGETHER" AND "HARVEST SING")

(THE BOYS PLAY GUITAR. DIDI DRUMS WITH HER KNIFE AND FORK--MAYBE PLAYS THE SPOONS. GRACE PLAYS THE JUG. TITO SETS THE TABLE DURING THE SONG.)

(AFTER SONG CUT TO: WIDE SHOT OF TABLE)

TITO(OS):

O.k band o' mine...

(CUT TO: XCU TITO)

Here comes the turkey.

(PULL BACK TO REVEAL TURKEY IN TOP HAT AND TAILS)

TURKEY:

Howdy, folks!

(THE TABLE GREETS THE TURKEY)

GRACE:

Hi, turkey guy!

DIDI:

Hey, nice clothes, Mr.T.

TEX:

What a handsome bird.

REX:

Nothing fowl about him.

(CUT TO: 2S)

TITO:

Can I dress a bird or what?

TEX(OS):

So, Tito...

(CUT TO: XCU OF TEX)

(Ominously) What's for dinner?

(SCARY MUSIC STING. QUICK CUTS OF GRACE, DIDI, BOYS, AND BIRD WITH SCARY STING ACCOMPANYING EACH QUICK CUT. THE BIRD TURNS TO TITO. CUT TO: XCU OF TITO...FINAL STING AND DRUM ROLE. PULL OUT TO REVEAL TITO LIFTING LID FROM PLATTER OF...)

TITO:

Vegetables!!! .

(PUSH IN TO XCU OF TURKEY)

TURKEY:

Oh happy day. You guys are a turkey's best friend...vegetarians!

(CUT TO: WIDE SHOT AS GANG WELCOMES TURKEY TO TABLE AMID JOYFUL CHATTER)

TABLE (AD LIBS):

Yay, turkey! Wotta guy! Eehah! Pass me some of that thar brocolli! SCENE 5 (MAINSET)

(DAN, BECKY AND KARA ARE BY THE TABLE LOOKING AT ALL THE DISHES THAT ARE PRESENT)

KARA;

I don't get what's so special about Thanksgiving.

BECKY:

We don't get gifts.

KARA:

We don't get to stay up late.

DAN:

And we have to keep our clothes clean.

BECKY:

What do you think is under this one?

(DAN AND KARA SHRUG. BECKY LIFTS THE LID)

DAN & KARA:

Peas!

(BECKY UNCOVERS THE NEXT)

DAN & KARA:

Salad!

(KARA LIFTS THE LID FROM A LARGE PLATTER. STRETCHED OUT ON HIS STOMACH, CHIN RESTING ON HIS WRISTS, KNEES BENT, ANKLES CROSSED IS MR. C. POSING LIKE A 40'S BATHING BEAUTY)

DAN & KARA:

Mr. Conductor!

BECKY:

What are you doing under there?

MR. C:

I was just seeing what it's like from the turkey's point of view.

DAN:

What is it like?

MR. C:

It's a bad time for big birds.

DAN:

And it's not so great for us either.

KARA:

Yeah, why's Thanksgiving such a big deal?

MR. C:

Do you know how it started?

BECKY:

... not really.

MR. C:

Well about 350 years ago, settlers from Europe came to this continent to live... they were called Pilgrims.

(INSERT: ACCOMPANYING PICTURES. STOCK FOOTAGE.)
[MR. C. COULD THEM TO A BOOK])

And they had a lot of trouble growing crops so they didn't have much to eat. When the people who already lived here, who the Pilgrims called Indians, learned about this trouble, they gave the Pilgrims seeds and taught them about the soil. And at last, their crops began to grow and they finally had a good To celebrate, harvest. they had a feast. Indians and the Pilgrims sat down together and shared all the bounty the land offered. And that the first was Thanksgiving. In time, It's become a day that people stop and think about all they have to be grateful for; especially the food we have and the friends we are blessed with. Now because you're friends, I have something I want to share with you.

BECKY:

Can we guess?

MR. C:

Go ahead.

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deside ento social

dech the account with a call to Pelson's

DAN:

A Thomas story.

MR. C:

Right you are.

SCENE 6
(TTE: "THOMAS, PERCY AND CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE" -- RE-CUT AND NARRATED FOR THANKSGIVING)

SCENE 7 (MAINSET)

DAN, BECKY & KARA:

That's nice.

MR. C:

Well I have to be going. Sir Topham Hatt is having his party for all the people on Sodor. And they asked em to bring Baby Ruby Bubble Biscuits.

DAN:

What are they?

MR. C:

I have no idea. I have to go read the recipe. Wish me luck.

(AT ENTRANCE, BILLY RETURNS. HE IS IN A HURRY; CHECKS HIS WATCH. HE RUSHES TOWARD HIS OFFICE)

SCENE 8 (WORKSHOP)

(AS BILLY PUTS AWAY HIS TOOLS:)

BILLY:

I missed the parade and the songs but if I can catch the next train, maybe I'll get there in time for the meal and the stories...

(ENTER DAN, BECKY AND KARA)

KARA:

You were going to tell us about the Boomers and the hobos...

(THERE'S A COMMOTION OUTSIDE)

GINNY:

(VO)

terrible. You have to help me.

BILLY:

Excuse me kids...

(BILLY EXITS)

SCENE 9 (MAINSET)

(GINNY IS WITH STACY. BILLY JOINS THEM)

GINNY:

Awful! Terrible!

STACY:

Ginny, calm down and tell us what happened?

GINNY:

You know my dog?

STACY:

The one you renamed Mr. Filthy?

GINNY:

Well, he's really gone and done it this time. I took the turkey out to let it cool. And he's lookin' at it like a pointer.

(SHE IMITATES A POINTER, STIFF, WIDE EYED, FRONT PAW UP)

I thought, well, isn't that cute. But then he lunged. Attacked it. Ran out the back door with it and tore it to shreds. And now I don't have a turkey.

KARA:

Mr. Filthy is a bad dog.

GINNY:

Yes! And his new name is "GETOUTTATHERE!" But what am I going to do? My nephew and his wife are coming for dinner.

STACY:

There's that place in Dilly Lick that sells pre-cooked turkeys. It's open for another half hour.

GINNY;

I can't get to Dilly Lick.

BILLY:

You can if \underline{I} take you there .

GINNY:

Would you do that for me!?

BILLY:

Sure.

GINNY:

Well, we gotta hurry. Time's a wasting.

(GINNY AND BILLY EXIT)

STACY:

Hey, you're just the gang I'm looking for.

DAN:

Are you going to put us to work.

STACY:

Darn right I am. We're going to MAKE some turkeys.

KARA:

How do you make a turkey?

STACY:

I'll show you. We need some paper.

(THEY MAKE ORIGAMI TURKEYS)

(THEY SIT AROUND THE TABLE. AS THEY WORK:)

BECKY:

Billy was going to tell us about the boomers and hobos. Who are they?

STACY:

The boomers are railroad workers: switchmen, engineers. And the hobos are people who hitch free rides on the trains. They weren't always pals. In fact, they never talked to each other.

(FOOTAGE)

(VO)

But they all had two things in common: they were never home for the holidays and both love All kinds of trains. Some hobos know trains. as much about trains as boomers do. Once there were some hobos walking along the tracks and they saw a switch get thrown but it didn't switch all the way. It got stuck in the middle. It was frozen. And the express was coming through. hobos knew there'd be a big accident if that switch wasn't open all the way. But it wouldn't budge. More hobos came to help.

explain the means of the ward?

STACY (cont'd):

They found and old rail and wedged it in there and with all their might, and more coming to help, they opened the switch... and saved the day. The boomers heard about this and they went to thank the hobos. And when they did they all got to talking and they found out they all had good railroad stories to tell each other. And from then on, they agreed to spend their Thanksgiving together.

(STACY AND KIDS AT THE TABLE)

They gather from all over the country. And each year they invite special railroad people. This year they invited Billy.

KARA:

That's neat.

DAN:

Look at mine.

(THEY SHOW EACH OTHER THEIR ORIGAMI TURKEYS)

STACY:

Excellent... We'll decorate the table with these. Here's a nickel. put it in the picture machine while I finish up my work.

? glim?

Thanksgiving
Page 29 - 2ND DRAFT 9/10/92

SCENE 10

(PICTURE MACHINE: ALL THE THINGS TO BE THANKFUL FOR)

SCENE 11 (MAINSET)

(BILLY RETURNS. CHECKS HIS WATCH AND RUSHES TO HIS OFFICE)

SCENE 12 (WORKSHOP)

(BILLY ENTERS)

BILLY:

Well I missed the parade and the songs but there's still some time... if I really hurry...

(THERE IS A COMMOTION OUTSIDE)

SCENE 13 (MAINSET)

(BILLY COMES OUT. ALL THREE KIDS ARE TALKING AT ONCE)

STACY:

One at a time.

KARA:

It's Schemer.

STACY:

What happened to Schemer?

BECKY:

Aunt Stacy, Schemer got on a waiting train to see if any passengers were going to give him presents...

KARA:

... and the train took off before he could get off.

DAN:

We saw him. He was crying.

STACY:

Oh my goodness.

BILLY:

That's the (CLOGGYVILLE) Express.

STACY:

I'll call the switchman.

BILLY:

I'll get the tender and try and catch up to it at Doodle Haven.

SCENE 13 (CONT'D) (BILLY EXITS)

KARA:

Is Billy going to get Schemer off the train?

STACY:

I hope so. His mommy is expecting him home for Thanksgiving dinner.

(SHE CHECKS HER WATCH)

And we better be going, too.

(STACY PUTS THE CLOSED SIGN IN THE TICKET WINDOW. STACY GOES TO THE TABLE AND TAKES HER CONTRIBUTION AND EXITS)

Come on kids. Or we're going to be late for our dinner.

(THEY EXIT. THE STATION IS EMPTY)

(TIME PASSES)

(BILLY ENTERS. CHECKS HIS WATCH. RUSHES INTO THE OFFICE. A TRAIN PULLS IN. BILLY COMES RUNNING OUT. REMEMBERS HIS CRANBERRY SAUCE, GOES BACK TO GET IT. THE TRAIN IS PULLING OUT AS BILLY RUNS FOR IT)

BILLY:

Wait... don't leave without me.

(BILLY RETURNS)

SCENE 14 (DRESSING ROOM. THE GANG IS SITTING AROUND, STUFFED)

TITO:

Billy just missed the last train he could get.

GRACE:

I guess that means he'll have to spend Thanksgiving all alone.

DIDI:

We could invite him in here, but I don't think he'd quite fit.

TURKEY: (PICKING HIS TEETH WITH TOOTHPICK)

Sometimes things don't always work out.

of the he his her his like boy

SCENE 15 (MAINSET)

(BILLY WALKS TOWARD THE TABLE AND PUTS HIS SPECIAL CRANBERRY SAUCE ON THE BIG EMPTY TABLE)

BILLY:

There's always next year I guess... There's no place lonelier than an empty train station. Especially on a holiday.

(HE LOOKS AROUND THE STATION:

THE BOOTH... AND HEARS STACY)

STACY:

(VO)

Come on, kids. Or we're going to be late for dinner...

(THE ENTRANCE STEPS AND HEARS GINNY)

GINNY:

(VO)

I'm having Thanksgiving with my nephew and his wife.

(THE MURAL AND HEARS J.B. KING)

KING:

(VO)

A lot of people are counting on us to get them home for Thanksgiving dinner.

(BY THE ARCADE:)

SCHEMER:

(VO)

We're having candied yams with chocolate sauce.

(ELSEWHERE:)

MIDGE:

(VO)

I'm having dinner with the Paddington-Wellingtons.

(ON BILLY)

BILLY:

No sense feeling sorry for myself. I can put some of this stuff away...

(ENTER STACY WITH A DISH)

STACY:

Hi Stacy. What are you doing back here?

STACY:

I had a feeling you might miss the last train. And you were going to spend Thanksgiving alone.

GINNY:

(VO)

Well, not entirely alone.

(ENTER GINNY CARRYING A TURKEY)

BILLY:

Hi Ginny.

GINNY:

Told my nephew and his wife to meet me here.

(ENTER J.B. KING)

KING:

Billy, got room for one more? Railroad people have to take their Thanksgiving where they can.

(ENTER MIDGE)

MIDGE:

Thought there might be a party going on here... It's better to be with folks you know.

3 2 don't really

(DAN, KARA AND BECKY ENTER WITH THEIR ORIGAMI TURKEYS)

DAN:

We asked if we could follow Aunt Stacy.

(ENTER SCHEMER WITH A PLATTER)

SCHEMER:

Mommy said I could leave the table if I finished my peas.

ALL:

Schemer?!

BECKY:

I think I'm beginning to understand Thanksgiving.

BILLY:

Shall we?...

(THEY ALL GATHER AROUND THE TABLE)

STACY:

We all have something to thank you for.

BILLY:

You know, a train station can be a pretty warm place on a holiday.

(ALL PLACE THEIR PLATTERS AND SUCH ON THE TABLE AND THEY SIT. DAN LOOKS UNDER A LID AND MR. C. HANDS HIM OUT A BISCUIT)

MR. C:

Pssssssst... pass these around. I made them myself.

(DAN TAKES THE TINY PLATE)

STACY:

Are you disappointed you missed your other Thanksgiving?

BILLY:

A little. But this one gives me more to be thankful for: ... thankful for our friends... thankful for our good health and thankful for the good health of our friends.

these set from our matter doubt

(THEY ALL JOIN HANDS IN A MOMENT OF SILENCE WITH THEIR HEADS BOWED. THEN THEY RESUME THE MEAL TOGETHER. AD LIBS: OH, HAVE SOME OF THIS; PASS ME THOSE POTATOES; HAVE YOU TRIED THESE; ETC. THE SCENE PROGRESSES WITH PLATES BEING PASSED -- INCLUDING THE TINY PLATE WHICH PARTICULARLY SURPRISES J.B. KING --HELPINGS ARE TAKEN AND THE FRIENDLY CHATTER CONTINUES)

correct sp? develop further

(THE END)